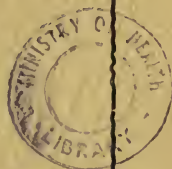


Ogmore and Garw
Urban District Council



R E P O R T
of the
Medical Officer
of Health

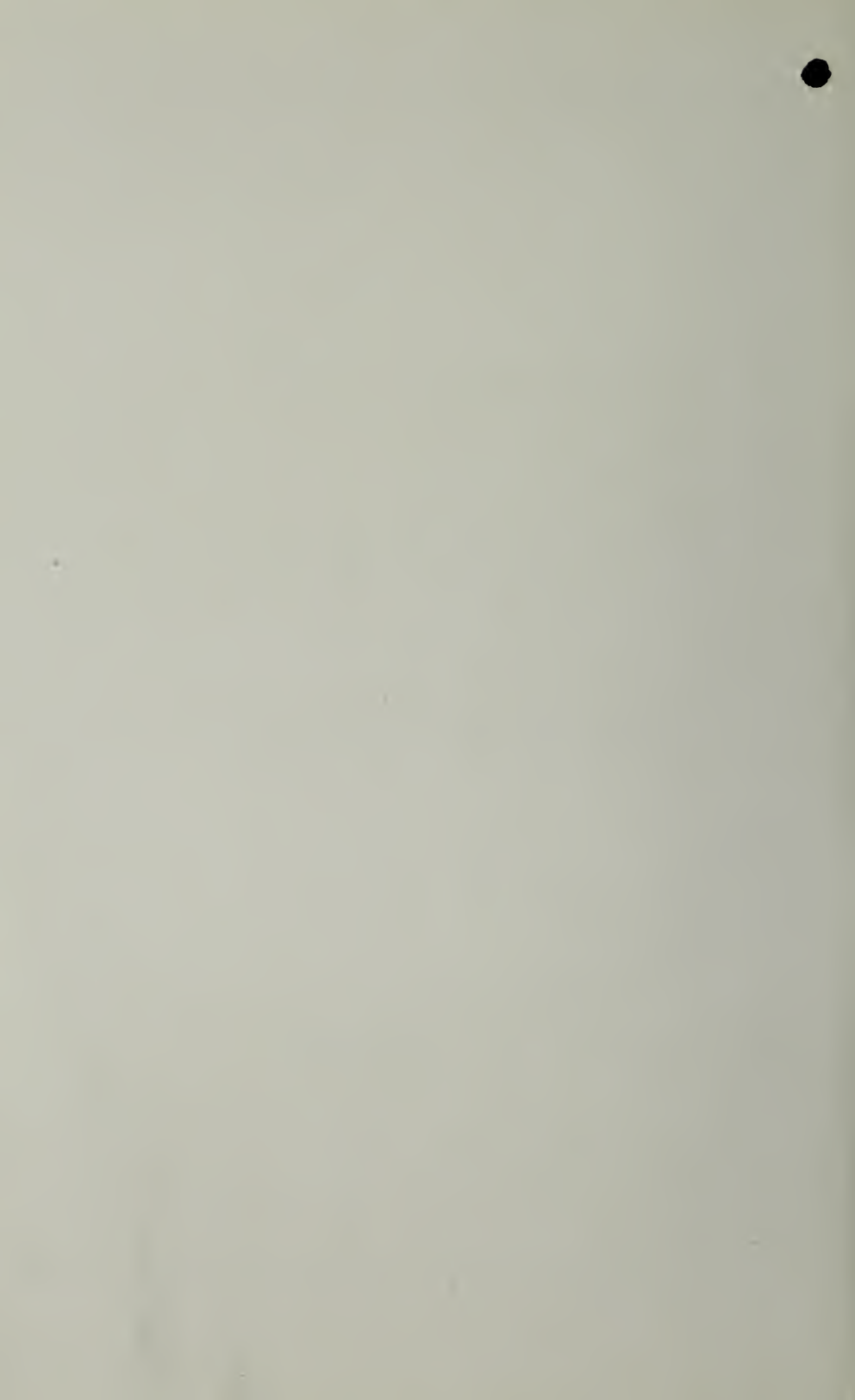
For the Year 1959



Ogmore and Garw
Urban District Council

R E P O R T
of the
Medical Officer
of Health

For the Year 1959



OGMORE AND GARW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF

Public Health Officers of the Authority :

(a) MEDICAL

Medical Officer of Health :

B. T. JONES, L.M.S.S.A. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Edin.)

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J. A. SADLER, M.A.P.H.I., Meat Inspector's Certificate
GWYN JONES, Pupil—Public Health Inspector

(c) CLERICAL

Miss THELMA O. HARRIS, until 12/6/59

Miss JEAN GRIFFITHS, appointed 1/4/59

(d) RODENT OPERATIVE

T. EVANS, until 15/12/59

E. PRITCHARD, appointed 2/11/59

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor P. CORCORAN

Councillor J. Lawrence

County Councillor W. J. Davey

Councillor W. Ll. Rees

Councillor T. J. Lewis

Councillor T. J. Fisher

Councillor D. R. Williams

Councillor P. Ridge

Councillor Mrs. H. W. Thomas

Councillor G. H. Rhodes

Councillor H. Pugh

Councillor B. Howells

Councillor Aeron James

Councillor R. G. John

Councillor W. Jones

Councillor A. Palfreman

Councillor Ivor Thomas

Councillor W. J. Stephens, J.P.

Councillor F. B. Wood

Councillor Thomas Evans

Councillor C. Polmeer

Councillor I. Harris

Mr. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

This is the thirteenth time that it has been my pleasure to present my Annual Report which is the sixty-first in the series and is in accordance with circular 1/60 (Wales).

The housing shortage continues to be acute and each year the problem becomes more urgent. The Council have exercised great patience in spending many hours discussing possible solutions. Their object has been to preserve the houses available by repairing and improving so that not one unit is lost if humanly possible. It may be thought by some that too much attention is paid to this preservation but if this is so, this policy has been forced on us by lack of building sites.

It is pleasing to report that for the first time there have been no deaths from tuberculosis, although there was unfortunately a slight increase in the number of notifications. This latter fact is doubtless due to the fact that investigations are yearly becoming more intensive.

There was a sharp increase in notifications of measles and a very significant decrease in the incidence of scarlet fever and whooping cough. Scarlet fever cases dropped from 54 to 19 and whooping cough cases dropped to a record low figure of six. There were again no cases of poliomyelitis or diphtheria. We have no doubt but that the disappearance of the three last mentioned diseases is due in great part to the active immunisation campaign. As these results are so remarkable, we would like to see the universal introduction of tetanus immunisation. Poliomyelitis vaccination during 1959 was available for infants over 6 months, school children, expectant mothers and those subject to risks. It was then made available to people up to 25 and later the age was extended to 40. When the age was raised to 25, there was an excellent response by both sexes and crowded clinics were the rule.

There were, during the year, small, sporadic, mild cases of sonné dysentery not confined to any one district. The annoying aspect was that as they were situated in diverse areas, it was impossible to trace the source of infection.

There was an increase in the number of meningo-coccal meningitis from one to three. This is a very distressing ailment but fortunately all the patients made a perfect recovery.

There was no influenza epidemic.

A great deal of time and thought has been given to food hygiene.

Posters relating to the anti-litter campaign have been displayed.

Subsidence, though an ever present menace was not so marked during the year under review.

The relationship between the Council and the staff of the Public Health Department has been, as usual, good. Close co-operation with the other departments has been maintained and constant discussion on all topics held.

The Surveyor has been most helpful in assisting with the graphs.

I wish to thank my department for their active interest and aid at all times.

Preventive medicine and health education are the foundations upon which positive health is built, unfortunately these are unseen influences and folk have yet to be educated in the simple rules of health. They will accept pills and potions with joy but when advised to seek health by means of regular hours, fresh air, exercise or by altering their mode of life in any way, they become extremely suspicious of their mentor.

It is of little avail to treat the branches of a tree when it is the root that needs attention.

I should regard it as a splendid step forward if we could reduce the number of hospital beds required for mental and medical cases as we have already reduced those required for tuberculosis and infectious diseases. I have sufficient faith in preventive medicine to believe that such could come to pass if the requisite attention were paid to this branch of medicine.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Unemployed :

On	Male	Female	Total
31/12/55	32	78	110
31/12/56	44	18	62
31/12/57	41	72	113
31/12/58	91	104	195
11/1/60	91	72	163

Registered Disabled persons placed in employment during the 12 months :

		Male		Female
1955	.....	45	.....	—
1956	.....	36	.....	—
1957	.....	30	.....	—
1958	.....	33	.....	7
1959	.....	26	.....	—

Pneumoconiotics and silicotics on the register of disabled persons :

On		Male
20/4/55	.....	132
16/4/56	.....	127
15/4/57	.....	122
21/4/58	.....	121
20/4/59	.....	102

The Disabled Persons Register included the names of 412 persons who were currently registered on 20th April, 1959. This was 43 less than 1958.

Twenty-seven employees of Remploy Ltd., Bridgend are resident in the area of which twelve are ex-miners.

Five persons were accepted for the Government Training or Industrial Rehabilitation Course in 1959.

Of the unemployed, 32 were disabled persons most of these were in the higher age group.

These cases are constantly reviewed by the Disablement Resettlement Officer for the purpose of appointment to suitable vacancies. Three severely disabled persons were recently placed in employment, two of them with Remploy Ltd.,

The following is information concerning manpower in the collieries of the district.

The number of men on the books at December 31st, 1959 :—

Ffaldau	.....	871
Garw	.....	697
International	.....	352
Glengarw	.....	54
Wyndham	.....	890
Western	.....	734
Penllwyngwent	.....	425

4,023

I am informed that there is a more optimistic outlook on the part of the National Coal Board with regard to their being able to compete effectively with other types of heating following extensive research in the utilisation of coal. It is affirmed that solid fuel is not only the cheapest form of central heating but is more efficient in that it does not require maintenance after installation where oil fired systems can cost as much as £15 a year for servicing.

Lung Condition in Miners.

It is pleasing to note the great interest taken by the Pneumoconiosis Unit in Llandough in the research in these conditions. Eleven years ago this Unit undertook an extensive physiological investigation to try to relate disability with radiological change in pneumoconiosis. The results of this were published as a Medical Research Council Report.

An attempt is now being made to follow up the original cases to find out how their respiratory function has changed during the period. It is hoped that this will provide more information about the relationship between the onset of disability and various grades of pneumoconiosis. Some of the original physiological tests are being repeated but in addition there is a considerable number of new methods of study which were unknown 10 years ago.

Apart from this experiment, a number of cases from this area have been admitted to the hospital under the clinical side for treatment. I have been interested in many of these cases and I have always been impressed by the enthusiasm, interest and active co-operation of the staff.

I mention these facts as I feel, being predominantly a mining area, such researches are of vital interest to us.

THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

This area suffers acutely from the fact that apprenticeships in carpentry, plumbing, brick-laying, etc. are almost impossible to obtain. At one end of the scale we have a dearth of such skilled workmen and at the other end the impossibility of securing appropriate training for youths who are anxious to enter these trades.

The result of this position is youths who might become extremely skilled in one of the trades, accept dead-end occupations which are beneath their ability.

The work of the Youth Employment Service is made extremely difficult. School talks and interviews have been held by the Youth Employment Officer at the Secondary Modern and Grammar Schools in the area while industrial visits have been arranged for school leavers to the factories, etc. in the area.

Both at Ogmore Vale and Pontycymmer, open evenings are held for the advice and encouragement of the school leaver in Ogmore Vale the second Wednesday of the month from 6.0—7.0 p.m. and at Pontycymmer on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 6.0—7.0 p.m.

1st OCTOBER, 1958—30th SEPTEMBER, 1959.

	No. invited to attend	Replying in writing	Respond- ing in person	Attending uninvited	Followed up in other ways
	B. G.	B. G.	B. G.	B. G.	B. G.
Ogmore Vale	69 65	13 24	15 13	— 2	60 54
Pontycymmer	60 75	12 9	15 12	1 2	54 62

During the year there was a large increase in the number of boys and girls from Grammar Schools who required advice on the various careers.

A Careers Convention was held in October at the Bridgend Grammar School for Boys to which pupils from the Fifth and Sixth Forms at Grammar Schools throughout the Mid-Glamorgan Division were invited with their parents.

Representatives from each of the professions and trades attended in order that they might aid the pupils in their choice of a career and answer any question either parent or pupil might put. I was invited to attend as a representative and I found the interviewing of the pupils most interesting.

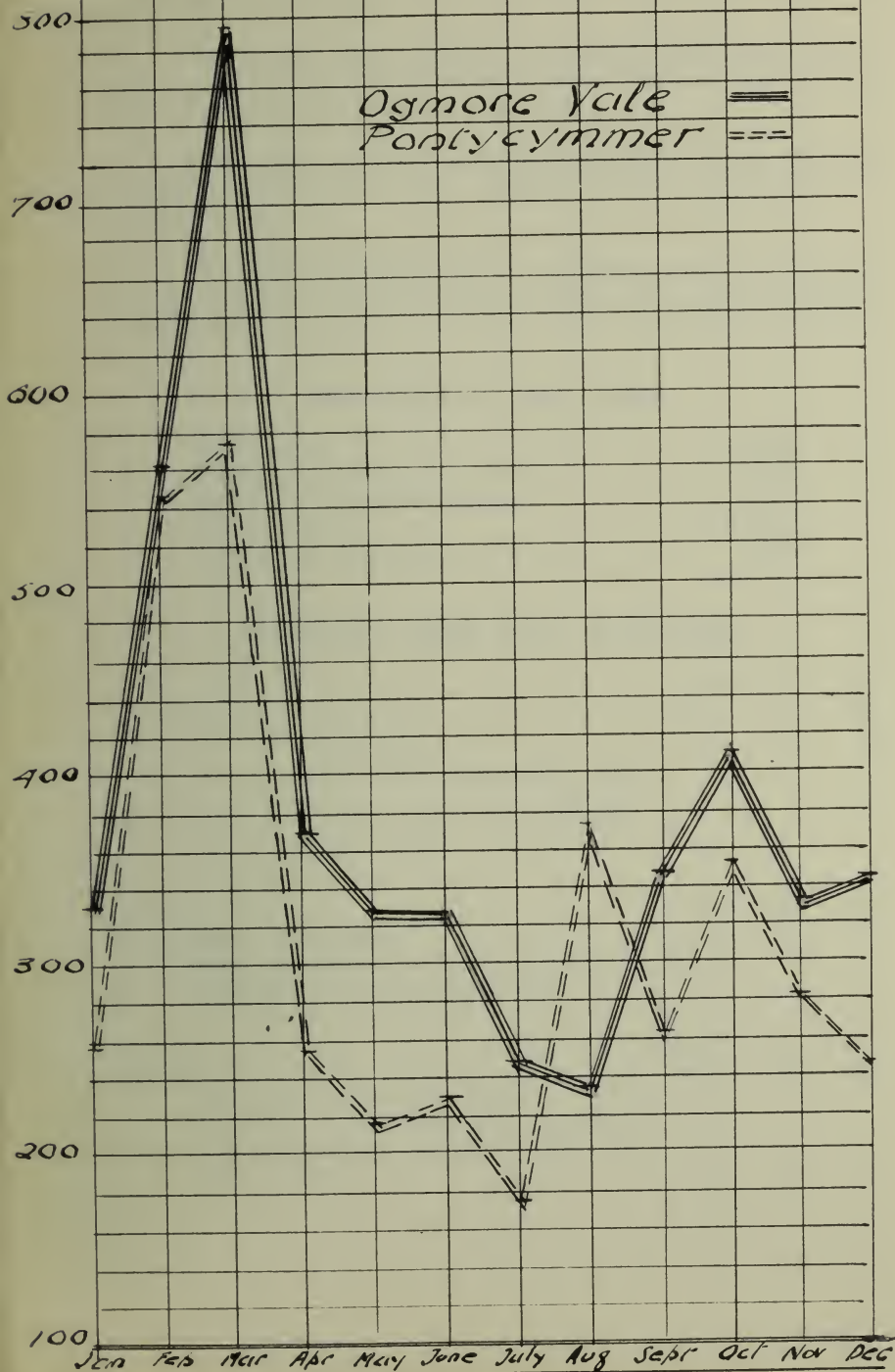
The following is the number of young people who left secondary modern schools during 1959.

	Christmas	Easter	Summer
	B. G.	B. G.	B. G.
Blaengarw Secondary Modern	14 14	9 14	15 20
Pontycymmer Secondary Modern	2 5	4 12	7 7
Nantymoel Secondary Modern	19 16	17 11	29 24
Total	35 35	30 37	51 51

THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INSURANCE

Statistics of Fresh
Claims to Sickness
Benefits in 1959

Ogmore Vale ===
Portycymmer ===





FORESTRY.

The present staff of the Cwmogwr Forest comprise 10 juveniles and 20 adults.

108 acres in Garw Fechan were planted last season and a further 200 acres in the Garw area will be planted. The species planted were spruce, pine and Douglas fir.

Eight miles of new roads were constructed in the Maendy and Garw blocks and a similar length of roads is planned to be constructed shortly.

As plantations approach the thinning stage production of pitwood, etc., is rising rapidly. Many tons of pitwood have already been sent to pits in Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	17,984
Estimated mid-year population	22,010
Number of inhabited houses	6,281
Rateable value	£145,481
Product of a penny rate	£530

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births : Legitimate	355	179	176
Illegitimate	6	4	2
Birth rate (Recorded)—16.4			
Corrected by the Registrar			
General's area comparability			
factor—16.4.			

	Total	M.	F.
Still Births : Legitimate	13	3	10
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still birth)	34.7		
Total live and still births—374.			

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths :	257	151	106
Death rate (Recorded) 11.68			
Corrected by the Registrar General's			
area comparability factor—14.13			
Infant deaths	8	5	3

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age :

All infants per 1,000 total live births	22.16
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.53
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	13.85
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	8.31
Perinatal Mortality Rate	42.78
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	1.66
Deaths from puerperal pyrexia causes	Nil
Deaths from malignant neoplasm (all ages)	34
Deaths from measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil
Deaths from cerebro spinal fever (all ages)	Nil

Birth Rate for the last 10 years for England and Wales,
the Administrative County and Ogmore and Garw U.D.C.

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
England &										
Wales	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.60	16.10	16.4	16.5
Glam.	16.1	16.32	16.16	16.16	15.62	15.10	15.76	16.31	16.4	16.24
Ogmore and Garw										
U.D.C.	15.6	15.84	17.52	16.73	13.52	14.79	16.19	15.28	17.44	16.4

Death Rate for the last 10 years for England and Wales,
the Administrative County and Ogmore and Garw U.D.C.

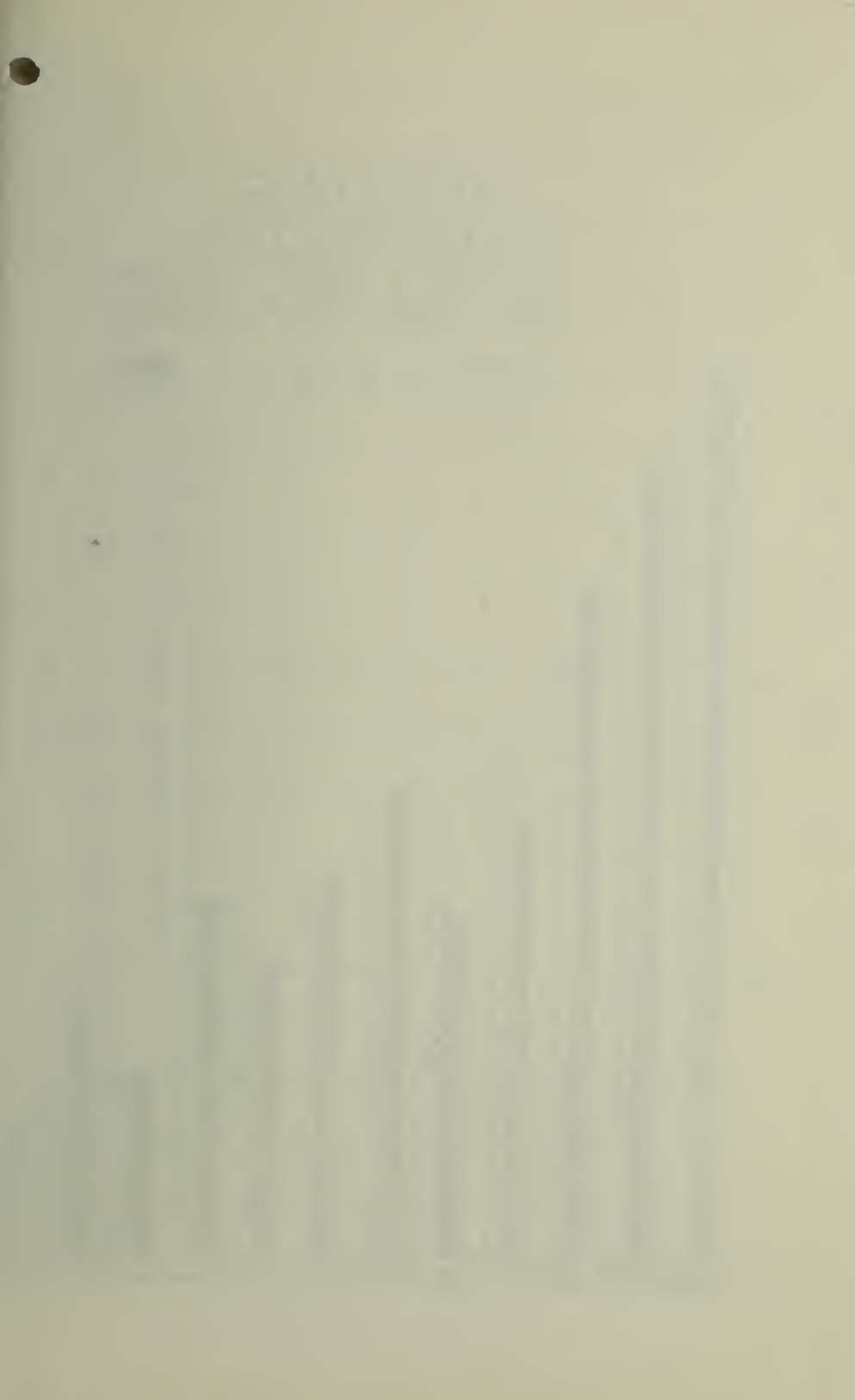
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
England &										
Wales	11.6	12.5	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.6
Glam.	12.7	13.7	11.57	11.78	12.25	13.09	12.27	12.27	11.88	11.95
Ogmore and Garw										
U.D.C.	13.8	13.9	11.62	11.51	12.18	12.10	12.28	11.54	11.42	11.68

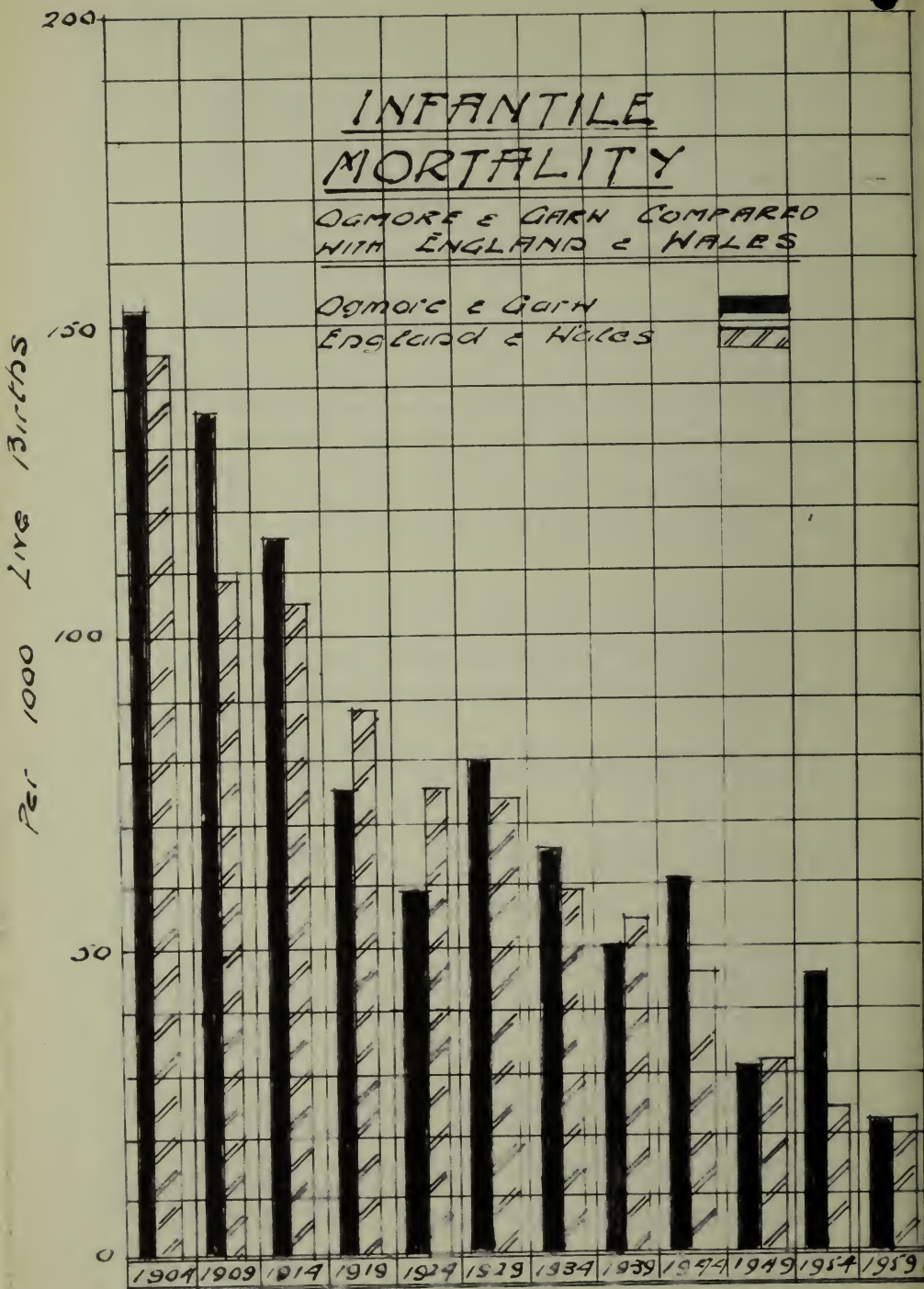
INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There was another welcome decrease in the deaths of children under 1, 8 as compared with 11 last year. The causes of deaths and the ages are classified on the accompanying table. Seven of the deaths occurred in hospital and five were less than a month old.

I feel that the talks and education given at clinics and in the home should be further intensified so that an even more gratifying infantile mortality rate might be achieved.

The courses arranged by the County Council for the Health Visitors benefit them considerably. Their enthusiasm is maintained and their methods of instruction kept completely up to date.





INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1959.

Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under 1 year of age.

	Under 1 year											Total
	1 hour	12 hours	24 hours	1-3 days	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	
Prematurity...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Atelectasis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Acute Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Broncho Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Staphylococcal Pneumonia Lt. Side with Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Broncho Pneumonia and congenital abnormality of the heart	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	8

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever :

There was a decrease in the notifications of 1959 compared with those of 1958—54 in 1958 and 19 in 1959. There were no very severe cases and a complete recovery free of complications was made by all patients. Hospital beds were made available when considered necessary.

Whooping Cough :

The decrease in notifications follows last year's dramatic fall—107 notifications in 1957, 22 in 1958 and 6 in 1959. No immunised child was afflicted.

Measles :

There was a sharp increase in measles notifications. In 1958, there were 21 and in 1959, 255. In 1956, there were 418. All the cases needing institutional treatment were accommodated.

Meningococcal Meningitis :

There were 3 cases notified, all of whom made complete recoveries.

Sonne Dysentery :

Sonné dysentery cases were notified each month except August and November during the year. In spite of very thorough investigations, the sources were not once discovered.

It is extremely difficult at the present time to pin point a source of infection since there is a constant movement of population, often to distant places. In a few cases, it was ascertained that the victims had been visiting friends not in the area who had symptoms suggestive of dysentery.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING.

1. LOCAL AUTHORITY : Ogmores and Garw Urban District Council. YEAR 1959.

2. (a) FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected) AS RETURNED TO REGISTRAR GENERAL.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	TOTAL
10	1	6	5	22

(b) CASES OTHERWISE ASCERTAINED.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	TOTAL
Nil	1	5	4	10

(c) FATAL CASES.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	TOTAL
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

3. PARTICULARS OF OUTBREAKS.

	No. of outbreaks		No. of cases		Total No. of cases
	Family outbreaks	Other outbreaks	Notified	Otherwise ascertained	
Agent identified	1	Nil	6	2	8
Agent not identified	4	Nil	14	Nil	14

4. SINGLE CASES.

	No. of cases		Total No. of cases
	Notified	Otherwise ascertained	
Agent identified	Nil	6	6
Agent not identified	2	2	4

REPORT ON INDIVIDUAL CASES OF FOOD POISONING.

<i>Cases</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Food Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>Agent Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Results of Laboratory Investigation</i>	<i>Probable Origin of Infection</i>
1.—6/12	Infant	Vomiting and diarrhoea 6 stools per day lasting 4 days, she was the first taken ill	Unknown	Unknown	....	Negative rectal swabs	All these are members of one family. On 16/1/59 they ate beans and sausages from a tin for tea. Tinned meat was eaten on 17/1/59 but cases 1 and 4 were ill before this. Cases 5 and 6 had meat from a different tin on 17/1/59. The possibility is the infection came from the sausages though Case 1, the infant, had not eaten any.
2.—35	School- master	Vomiting and diarrhoea Abdominal pains and headache. Father of above	Possibly sausages	Unknown	....	Negative rectal swabs	
3.—32	Housewife	Headache and vomiting No diarrhoea	Possibly sausages	Unknown	....	Negative rectal swabs	
4.—9	Schoolboy	Headache and vomiting No diarrhoea	Possibly sausages	Unknown	....	Negative rectal swabs	
5.—5	Schoolboy	Son of above Slight diarrhoea	Possibly sausages	Unknown	....	Negative rectal swabs	
6.—6	Schoolboy	Brother of above Slight diarrhoea	Possibly sausages	Unknown	....	Negative rectal swabs	
7.—60	O.A.P.	Brother of above Abdominal pains headache and diarrhoea	Possibly sausages	Unknown	.... 7	Negative rectal swabs	

<i>Cases</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Food Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>Agent Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Results of Laboratory Investigation</i>	<i>Probable Origin of Infection</i>
8.—40	Miner	Nausea, pain, diarrhoea and rash for 4 days	Possibly sardines	Unknown	....	Negative rectal swabs	Sardines had been eaten. Five persons were at risk but 2 children did not eat the sardines. The husband's mother ate some with no effect. No food for invest- igation was obtainable.
9.—38	Housewife	Rash for 4 days	Possibly sardines	Unknown	.... 2	Negative rectal swabs	
10.—35	Unknown	On 27/3/59 he arrived in the area. On 28/3/59 he had vomiting and a rash lasting a day	Possibly cold meat	Unknown	.... 1	No invest- igation	This case was a visitor from Beckenham who ate cold meat on the journey. No other member of the household was affected.
11.—59	On Comp- ensation	On 23/6/59 about 4 p.m. he had vomiting and diarrhoea. He had eaten cold meat between 12 and 1 p.m. Admitted to hospital 23/6/59	Possibly cold meat	Unknown	.... 1	Negative rectal swabs	Possibly toxin which had dev- eloped in the meat.
12.—7	Schoolboy	On 12/6/59 he had hourly diarrhoea, no vomiting	Unknown	Unknown	.... 1	Negative rectal swabs	There were 3 others in the house at risk, but he was the only one infected
13.—60	Housewife	Vomiting and diarrhoea, ate cold ham at 1 p.m. 21/7/59 vomiting and diarrhoea at 2 p.m.	Possibly cold ham	Unknown	.... 1	Negative rectal swabs	Cold ham cooked 18/7/59. Last portion eaten 25/7/59. There were 3 others in the house at risk
14.—2½	Infant	On 12/9/59 he vomited with blood stained stools, admitted hospital	Unknown	Typhi murium salmonella	.... 1	Positive Typhi murium salmonella on 20/11/59	None could be traced. 3 others in house at risk

<i>Cases</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Food Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>Agent Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Results of Laboratory Investigation</i>	<i>Probable Origin of Infection</i>
15.—18	Housewife	Pregnant at the time. On 28/9/59 abdominal pains then diarrhoea. Transferred to Isolation Hospital from General Hospital	Unknown	Salmonella typhi murium	....	Positive excreting salmonella typhi murium when discharged, child not infected	Cross infection from case 16. She was confined in the Isolation Hospital
16.—10	Schoolboy	No definite onset. Some malaise with loose stools	Unknown	Salmonella typhi murium	2	Positive	Whilst investigating case 15, it was found the boy had visited her when he seemed out of sorts. When a swab was taken from him found to be positive salmonella typhi murium
17.—34	Clerk	Headache, diarrhoea, vomiting. Admitted to Isolation Hospital 2/10/59, discharged 6/11/59 when swabs negative	Unknown	Salmonella typhi murium	1	Positive salmonella typhi murium	The wife, a school canteen worker not affected
18.—2	Infant	On 2/10/59, vomiting and diarrhoea, discharged 19/11/59	Unknown	Salmonella typhi murium	1	Positive salmonella typhi murium	She attended a nursery school. Another child had been ill. All the children swabbed but were negative. At the end of the year this child was still positive

<i>Cases</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Food Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>Agent Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Results of Laboratory Investigation</i>	<i>Probable Origin of Infection</i>
19.—	5	.... Infant	Diarrhoea and vomiting admitted hospital 29/7/59, discharged 29/7/59	Possibly sausages	.... Salmonella ... typhi murium and Sonné Dysentery	....	Positive	.... All the cases are members of one large and hungry family. Sausages may be the source of infection. The mother is overworked and no doubt hastily prepares meals, hence undercooked sausages. The consentment from which the supply had been obtained was sold out. Only the father and mother escaped infection
20.—	1	.... Infant	Diarrhoea and vomiting admitted hospital 6/7/59, discharged 29/7/59	Possibly sausages	.... Salmonella ... typhi murium and Sonné dysentery	....	Positive	....
21.—	2	.... Infant	Diarrhoea and vomiting admitted hospital 9/7/59, discharged 4/8/59	Possibly sausages	.... Salmonella ... typhi murium and Sonné Dysentery	....	Positive	....
22.—	7	.... Schoolboy	Diarrhoea and vomiting admitted hospital 9/7/59, discharged 16/7/59	Possibly sausages	.... Salmonella ... typhi murium	....	Positive	....
23.—	5	.... Schoolboy	Diarrhoea and vomiting admitted hospital 6/7/59, discharged 14/7/59	Possibly sausages	.... Salmonella ... typhi murium	....	Positive	....
24.—	10	.... Schoolboy	Diarrhoea and vomiting admitted hospital 6/7/59, discharged 24/7/59	Possibly sausages	.... Salmonella ... typhi murium and Sonné Dysentery	....	Positive	....
25.—	3	.... Schoolgirl	Diarrhoea and vomiting admitted hospital 3/7/59, discharged 25/7/59	Possibly sausages	.... Salmonella ... typhi murium	7	Positive	....

<i>Cases</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Food Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>Agent Causing Outbreak</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Results of Laboratory Investigation</i>	<i>Probable Origin of Infection</i>
26.—	9	....	Schoolboy	Slight sickness with rash	Unknown	Unknown	1 Negative	Unknown
27.—	14	....	Schoolboy	Admitted to General Hospital suffering from osteomyelitis on 20/7/59. Two days later he developed abdominal pains and diarrhoea, admitted to Isolation Hospital	Unknown Salmonella typhi murium	....	1 Positive, Free from infection on 23/10/59	Unknown
28.—	26	....	Housewife	Attacks of vomiting	Grapes	Unknown	3 Grapes were sent to the laboratory as it was thought it was some form of spray might have affected the grapes. There was no contamination	The three had eaten grapes late in the evening and they were ill at various times during the night. This was a possible cause. One other member of the house not infected
29.—	2	....	Infant	Attacks of vomiting	Grapes	Unknown ....	....	....
30.—	52	....	Housewife	Attacks of vomiting	Grapes	Unknown ....	....	....
31.—	42	....	Miner	Vomiting on midnight 19/12/59	Possibly chicken	Unknown	Negative	They had eaten a chicken dinner at Portcawl, Saturday 19/12/59. They thought their illness might possibly be due to the chicken not having been re-heated sufficiently after having been cooked
32.—	39	....	Housewife	Vomiting and diarrhoea mid-day 20/12/59	Possibly chicken	Unknown	2 Negative ....	....

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1959.

<i>Diseases</i>	Under 5		5—14		15—44		45—64		65 & over		Age Unknown		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Pneumonia ...	9	4	3	2	4	3	8	9	5	3	1	—	51
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	1	4	2	1	6	4	1	2	1	—	7	3	32
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	9

INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1959.

<i>Diseases</i>	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	1	—	27	65	42	72	28	15	5	—	—	—	255
Whooping Cough	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Pneumonia	2	5	32	1	7	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	51
Scarlet Fever	3	3	2	3	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	3	19
Sonné Dysentery	2	6	3	4	6	2	12	—	6	1	—	2	44
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	4	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	9
Food Poisoning	7	—	3	—	—	2	9	—	2	—	4	5	32
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	3

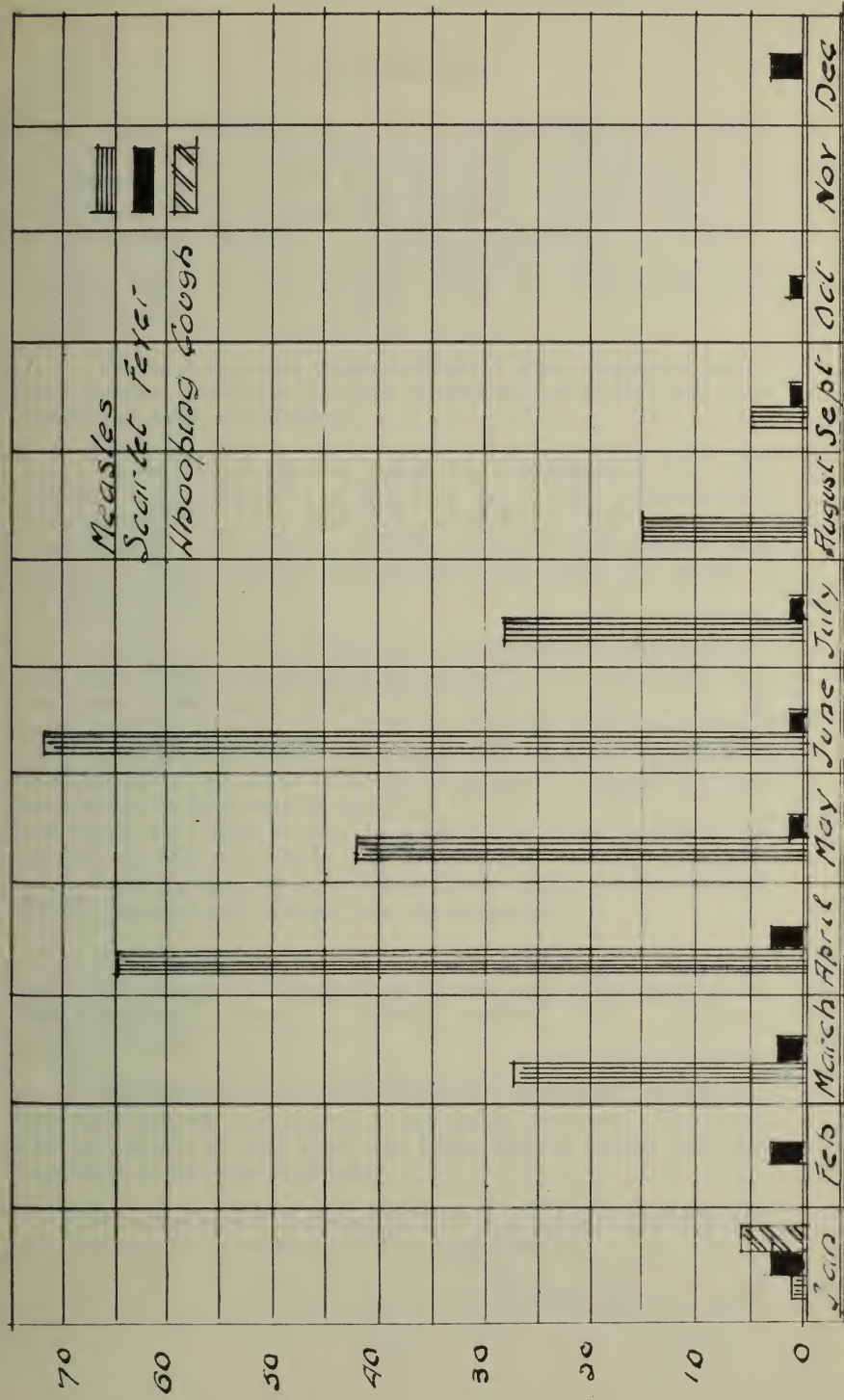
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED THROUGHOUT THE WARDS DURING 1959.

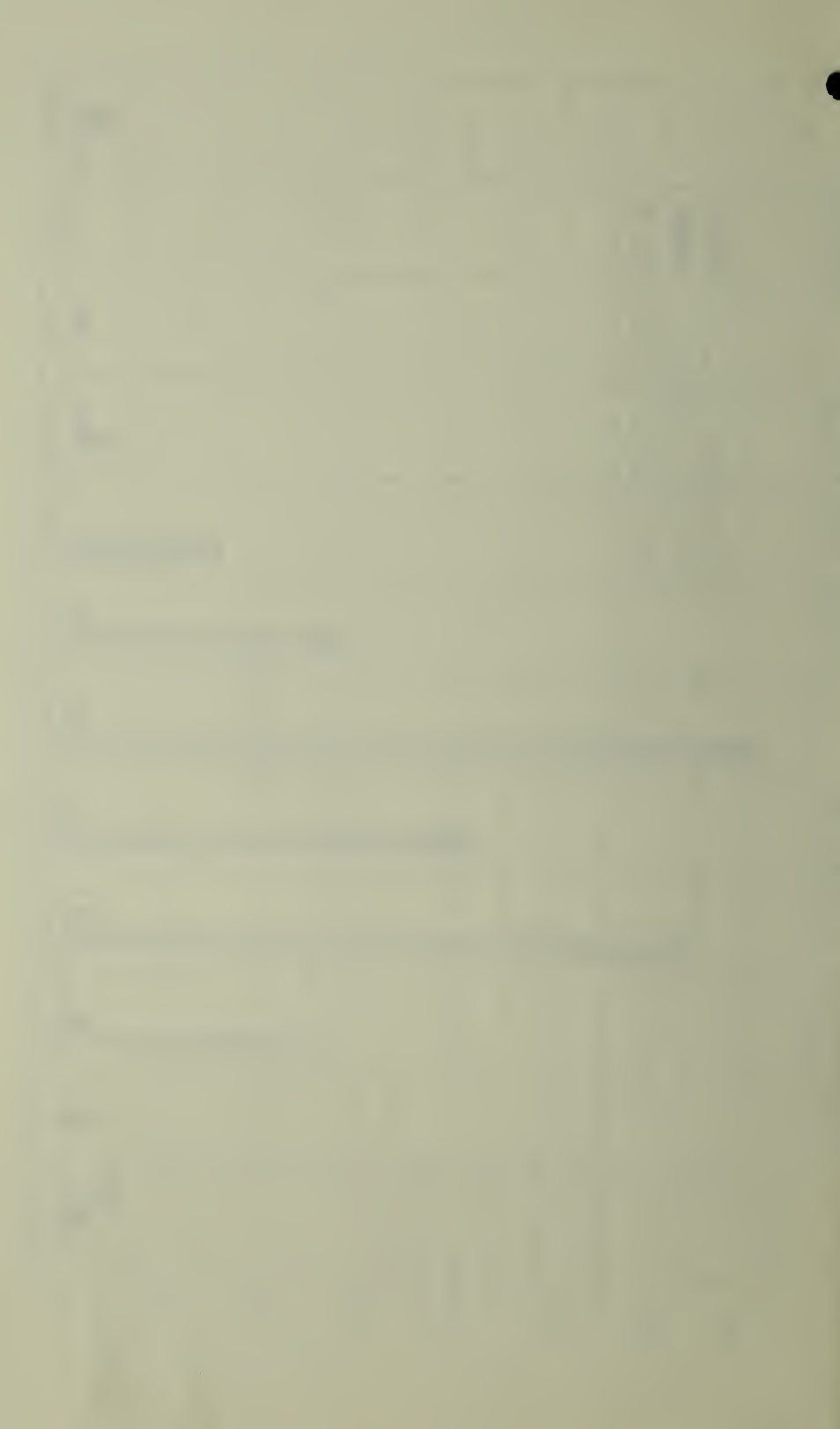
	B	P	B-P	N	T	A	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	7	3	3	6	—	19
Whooping Cough	—	3	3	—	—	—	6
Measles	—	—	41	8	131	75	255
Pneumonia	2	—	4	20	24	1	51
Food Poisoning	—	1	1	25	5	—	32
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	—	3	2	—	9
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
Sonné Dysentery	—	10	1	21	11	1	44
Erysipelas	—	—	1	1	1	—	3

CASES NOTIFIED

	Under 1 year M. F.	1 year M. F.	2 years M. F.	3 years M. F.	4 years M. F.	5—9 M. F.	10—14 M. F.	15—24 M. F.	25 & over M. F.	Age Un- known M. F.	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	2	4	1	2	—	—	—	19
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6
Measles	11	9	12	10	16	64	6	—	—	—	255
Sonné Dysentery	4	2	1	2	1	5	—	2	3	4	44
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1959





TUBERCULOSIS

There was an increase in the notifications for the year 1959, as compared with 1958. There were no deaths and this is the first time since records have been kept. The attitude of the public towards this disease has completely changed during the last few years. Results have been so successful that the public feel an absolute cure can be expected. However, the one disquieting factor is that tubercle bacilli, in certain cases, are becoming resistant to the drugs in use.

Of the pulmonary cases notified, 9 were diagnosed before they became infectious, 12 were moderately advanced and were infectious, when discovered.

There were 4 cases of tuberculous meningitis. Two were brothers whose father was found to be a case of pulmonary tuberculosis. The four cases were all under 9 years of age and made complete recoveries. Of the other non-pulmonary cases one had an infected knee, one an infected shoulder and the third an infected kidney.

Early in the year, some anxiety was caused by the discovery that four children in the 5-14 age group in the Blaengarw area had some abnormality in the chest on X-ray examination. As they were in the same school, it was thought that there might be a hidden source of infection, so all the staff and pupils were transported to the chest clinic and complete investigations were carried out, in each case by the chest physician and his staff. The net result was, that it was discovered that some children had catarrh on the chest following quite minor illnesses but there was no definite signs of tuberculosis in any of the children or staff. In all, 159 staff and children were investigated.

Although at the time, there was widespread alarm at the unusually intensive investigations, in the end, it bore good fruit. The school had a clean bill of health and the minds of staff and parents were put at rest.

The incidence of tuberculosis of the joints, bones and especially glands has shown a noticeable decrease. Doubtless, the prevalence of this type was often due to bovine infection especially in the case of glands.

For the past 2 years only T.T. and pasteurised milk has been allowed to be sold for human consumption.

The clean milk campaign has undoubtedly influenced this decrease.

A landmark in the decrease of tuberculosis in cattle in Glamorgan was that on March 1st, 1959, it was decided that the county should be a tuberculosis-eradication-in-cattle area. From that date, all non-attested herds (which were actually in the minority) were placed under close supervision and no animals were allowed to enter or leave the district without a permit. Such herds were tested and all animals reacting to tuberculosis were slaughtered and compensation at valuation paid.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1959.

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Age Periods	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	2	2	3	1	—	—	—	—
15—24	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44	2	5	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—64	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i>	12	9	5	2	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Notifications and Deaths 1940-1959 in the Ogmore and Garw Area.

Year	NOTIFICATIONS				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1940	17	19	7	10	2	3	2	2
1941	20	16	6	9	9	6	3	5
1942	11	16	10	8	7	4	4	0
1943	16	19	7	11	7	8	3	3
1944	20	24	10	5	6	8	2	0
1945	18	17	6	7	4	5	2	0
1946	23	14	7	10	9	8	0	3
1947	19	28	13	8	6	7	0	0
1948	15	16	3	4	5	10	0	1
1949	11	24	5	7	7	6	0	0
1950	11	12	4	5	5	6	1	1
1951	7	3	1	4	7	4	0	1
1952	12	13	3	5	8	3	0	1
1953	22	12	4	3	6	1	0	2
1954	12	16	1	2	1	2	1	0
1955	9	18	2	1	3	4	0	0
1956	7	11	—	—	1	3	—	—
1957	5	5	2	2	4	—	1	—
1958	8	7	1	3	1	1	1	1
1959	12	9	5	2	—	—	—	—

The following is a classification of the environmental and financial circumstances of the pulmonary tuberculosis patients who were notified during 1959.

The length of time between notification and admission to hospital also is indicated :—

- Grade I : Good house not overcrowded. Grade II : A good house but overcrowded.
 Grade III : Poor house but not overcrowded. Grade IV : Poor house and overcrowded.
 Grade V : Bad from every point of view.

<i>Case Age</i>	<i>Type of House</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Weekly Income per head</i>	<i>Period between Notification and admission to hospital</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1.—5	.... V	.... Scholar	.... Adequate	.... In Isolation Hospital when diagnosed	.... Pulmonary
2.—18	.... I	.... Miner	.... £1/10/0d.	.... Immediate	.... Pulmonary
3.—8	.... II (father is owner)	.... Scholar	.... Adequate	.... In Isolation Hospital when diagnosed	Tuberculous—meningitis (complete recovery)
4.—65	.... III	.... Miner	.... Adequate	.... Discharged from Rhydlafr working still	Tuberculous knee
5.—63	.... I	.... Carpenter in Remploi	.... £1/8/0d. per head	.... Admitted 8 days after notification	
6.—32	.... III	.... Housewife...	.... Adequate	.... Immediate	
7.—6	.... V overcrowded	.... Scholar	.... Adequate	.... Four days after notification	

<i>Case Age</i>	<i>Type of House</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Weekly Income per head</i>	<i>Period between Notification and admission to hospital</i>	<i>Comments</i>
8.—9	.... I	.... Scholar	.... Adequate	.... In Isolation Hospital.... when diagnosed	Tuberculous meningitis (complete recovery). He visited a neighbour who was a tuberculous patient
9.—21	.... II	.... Engineering Student	.... National Assistance	.... Admitted a month after diagnosis as he was sitting exams at the time	He had a friend a tuberculous patient
10.—15	.... III	.... Scholar	.... Adequate	.... Admitted one week after notification	Mother and sister former patients
11.—14	.... IV	.... Scholar	.... Adequate	.... Within 2 weeks	A tuberculous patient lived with the family for some months
12.—	.... I	.... Housewife....	.... Adequate	.... Within 2 weeks	Arrived from abroad 3 months ago. She looked ill then
13.—43	.... III	.... Housewife....	.... Adequate	.... A week after notification	Her husband was on tuberculous register
14.—39	.... IV	.... Housewife....	.... Adequate	.... In General Hospital when diagnosed transferred to Sully	

Case Age	Type of House	Occupation	Period between Notification and admission to hospital			Comments
			Weekly	Income per head	admission to hospital	
15.—31	III	Housewife...	...	£1/10/0d.	3 days	Still in hospital
16.—33	III	No occupation	...	£1/10/0d.	Immediate	Discharged herself
17.—30	III	Miner	...	Adequate	7 days	X rayed in mines when shadow found
18.—73	III	Old-aged pensioner	...	Pension	Fortnight	Still in hospital.
19.—50	III	Miner	...	£2	...	Tuberculous shoulder
20.—8	I	Scholar	...	Boarded-out child	...	Non-infectious, did not go to hospital
21.—69	IV	Retired Miner	...	Old-age pension	...	Brother and step-daughter died of tuberculosis. Grand-daughter a patient
22.—46	IV	Miner	...	Sufficient	2 days	Still in hospital
23.—47	III	Miner	...	£2/6/0d.	Fortnight	...
24.—55	III	Housewife...	...	£1/10/0d.	Immediate	...
25.—26	I	Miner	...	£2/10/0d.	Immediate	Mother died of tuberculosis 3 years ago.
26.—4	I	...	...	...	Immediate	Son of case 25, tuberculous meningitis
27.—3	I	...	...	...	...	Son of case 25, tuberculous meningitis
28.—38	I	...	...	...	...	Tuberculous kidney

DEATHS FROM CANCER, 1959.

	Malignant neoplasm Stomach		Malignant neoplasm Lungs and bronchus		Malignant neoplasm Breast		Malignant neoplasm Uterus		Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0-19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30-39	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
40-49	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
50-59	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	6
60-69	2	—	5	—	—	1	—	1	4	1	14
70 & Over	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	10
Total	3	3	7	1	—	2	—	2	11	5	34

HOSPITALIZATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following is the number of infectious and notifiable diseases admitted to Isolation Hospitals during the year :—

Blackmill Isolation Hospital :

Measles	33
Scarlet Fever	13
Sonné Dysentery	25
Diarrhoea and Vomiting }	
Gastro-Enteritis	36
Food Poisoning	2
B. Coli Infection	1
Impetigo	6
Tuberculous Meningitis	1
Herpes Zoster	2
Salmonella Infection	12
Infective Hepatitis	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2
Erysipelas	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1
Meningitis	2

Cefn Hirgoed Isolation Hospital :

Puerperal Pyrexia	8
Measles	1
Dysentery	3
Gastro-Enteritis	4
Suspected Meningitis	1

NUISANCE BY NOISE.

There are still complaints being sent to the Public Health Department with regard to the noise caused by the operation of the ventilation fan at the Wyndham Colliery.

It has been affirmed that it affects the health of those who live within the area through lack of sleep or through irritation owing to the monotonous and unceasing noise.

After questioning a cross section of those who live in the vicinity, I found it affected people in varying degree ; some affirmed that they were so accustomed to it that they failed to notice it ; others took the philosophical view that as the operation of the fan was necessary to the health of those working in the mine, they had attuned their ears and the sound no longer affected them, others maintained that it affected them sporadically. There were a few who claimed the incessant noise caused lack of sleep and others that the hum during the day and night made complete relaxation impossible.

A survey in the area has been carried out by a graduate of the University of Wales in connection with a thesis he was preparing on "Background Noise Levels." These findings confirm those of previous surveys carried out in November 1947 and in January, 1958. All the surveys recorded the maximum noise level in the living area adjacent to the colliery as below 60 phons, which can be compared to the background sound levels in a restaurant and general office. In no case could the results be classified as of nuisance value, the accepted minimum level of which is 80 to 85 phons.

However, the National Coal Board affirms that it is doing its best to minimise the unpleasantness for the benefit of those who react badly and they hope that in a couple of years, as a result of re-organisation of the collieries, the fans will be completely abolished. The Council are continuing to maintain an interest in how best to deal with this necessary inconvenience.

It must be recognised that though pollution of the peace by noise is perhaps as detrimental to health as pollution of the air by smoke, certain noises are essential to industrial processes.

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE.

The excellent work of the voluntary organisations throughout the area is well maintained.

In the Ogmore Valley, the penny per week contribution from the majority of the workers' unions and the donation from this authority make possible the distribution of parcels to the sick and house bound. The actual value of the parcel is small compared with the pleasure afforded to the recipient by the fact that he or she has a caller who will sit and chat to him or her, according aid when necessary in the way of advice or practical help. The visits are made fortnightly to those in hospital and monthly to the house bound.

The following is the number of local visits made with gift parcels in each case :—

Nantymoel	.....	.....	.....	779
Ogmore Vale	.....	.....	.....	808
Blackmill	.....	.....	.....	156
				<hr/>
Total				1743

The hospital visits with gift parcels were :—

Nantymoel patients	.....	.....	129
Ogmore Vale patients	.....	.....	244
Blackmill	.....	.....	54
			—
			427

The number of pensioners who received chiropody treatment were as follows :—

Nantymoel	.....	.....	94
Ogmore Vale	}	.....	90
Blackmill		.....

The sick visitors act as helpers at the clinics.

After April 1st, 1959, County and County Borough Councils will be permitted to operate their own chiropody service. Priorities will be given to those of pensionable age.

The Billiard Hall in Bethania Road, Ogmore Vale has now been bought and plans are being made to build an old people's centre on the site. For various reasons, the original plans had to be very much modified. At the moment, two rooms with a buffet are to be built. There is to be a large covered verandah along the whole of the front of the building.

In the Garw valley, the Welfare Committee still actively pursue their good work in calling on the house bound, helping in the chiropody clinics and other offices too numerous to mention.

The Club Centre is extremely well patronised and during the year was visited by representatives of the King George VI Foundation Trust Fund. They expressed themselves as very pleased with the Club and suggested that further facilities might be provided with a grant from the fund. Later an offer of £100 was made by these representatives for the conversion of the basement. The matter is under discussion.

The primary consideration in dealing with old people is to make it possible for them to stay in their own homes. The time may arise when they can no longer cope with an ordinary size house. One-bedroomed bungalows built on the council sites, where they would be surrounded by young people would not only be of inestimable value for them but would release their own houses for larger families.

Some authorities are now building houses with a self contained flat for "Grannie."

The advantages of such a scheme need not be emphasised. Once an elderly person is moved from his or her own home to an institution often a marked deterioration, both mental and physical occurs. They no longer try to concentrate or cope and sometimes a complete disintegration sets in. It has been affirmed that the reason why women live longer than men is that their household chores keep them active and busy while men after retirement become discontented and disinterested, taking little part in community life. In these valleys we find that the majority of the organisations are run by women, usually by those past middle-age. If the older men took a more active part, they would find a valuable stimulus mentally and physically.

We would once again draw attention to the fact that no solution has yet been found to the problem of accommodating temporarily a certain class of elderly people who are not ill enough to be admitted to hospital and not well enough to enter the County Hostel. They do not need nursing, but require extra attention for a little time. Or perhaps it is required to give a relative looking after them a little rest to enable her to continue her services refreshed and reinvigorated. In some authorities a scheme has been adopted of "boarding out" these elderly people, preferably in the neighbourhood where they normally live. I think this plan has possibilities which might be explored.

DEPRIVED CHILDREN.

There were seven children normally resident in this area who were admitted to the care of the County during 1959, while three children who originated from the area were discharged.

On December 31st, 1959 there were 19 children in 13 foster homes in the area and on this same date, 26 children from the area were still in the care of the county.

HOMELESS FAMILIES.

During this year, there have been discussions between representatives of County Council and those of the Urban and Rural Councils of Glamorgan as to the best method of dealing with homeless families. At present, when a family is entirely devoid of shelter it is taken to a hostel either at Rhooose or at Pontardawe for a period of 6 months, in order that it may be rehabilitated. Discussions are still proceeding.

HOUSING.

Eight bungalows were built by private enterprise in Llangeinor and one in Pantyrawel during 1959. These are of the two bedroomed type. In the area there is very little land available for the building of private houses and it is for this reason so few houses have been built. People from the area wishing to build or buy new houses are compelled to purchase outside. This is upsetting to the economy of the area and to the community as a whole.

The council are still negotiating for land on which to build. Owing to the fact that so much time has elapsed since the construction of the last council houses, there is an ever increasing need for accommodation. Expectation of life is continually increasing, hence vacancies of houses caused by death occur less frequently, making the housing problem more acute. Even a very energetic programme would take a long time to catch up with this build-up of housing needs.

It is little use our trying to take as an example what is being done in other areas because we have problems here peculiar to the district. In the days of the old craftsman, during the incursion and expansion of industry, homes were built on the sides of mountains often in inaccessible places. When these deteriorated they were inspected with a view to making them clearance areas. However, it was not a question of simply clearing them and building on the sites new, attractive homes as is done by many other authorities, for the contour of the land forbids this. What would be left would be heaps of rubble which would disfigure the surroundings. All that could be done would be to clear them away leaving unsightly scars on the countryside. However, if such clearances were made would not small temporary dwellings built on these sites (always provided they were in an area free from subsidence) meet the need of young families or older people who would like to leave large cumbersome houses and rent one storeyed, labour saving houses? Their houses might then be taken over by young people, energetic enough to improve them and bring them up to modern standards with all the latest amenities. At the present moment, there is a great desire on the part of numerous families to buy their own homes and improve them either without or with the aid of grants from the local authority. Whether this is due to a feeling of despair when confronted by the hopelessness of obtaining a rented home or to a genuine wish to enjoy the pride of ownership, the fact remains that there have been amazing transformations in old houses by those who have bought them up. At the present time, it seems that the only solution of the problem is to concentrate

on the preservation of old property. Owing to our local difficulties in obtaining sites, every opportunity should be made to urge people to apply for grants and to ease restrictions whenever possible. The criterion should be whether people will be happier and healthier after using the grant.

Another pressing and serious problem is that dealing with good property getting into a state of disrepair owing to the owners being unable to afford the necessary repairs. Their income is static whereas the price of materials and labour has risen enormously. Many of these owners are in the old-age pensioners' class. During the past year, the council have made a tentative start in buying up some of this property and putting it into a habitable state according to modern standards.

At Mount Pleasant, Blaengarw, Nos. 1—8 are in process of being modernised. There are a few others scheduled for improvement. Wood Street, Pontycymmer containing 20 houses was considered and the landlords of 18 houses agreed to sell their property to the Council as the standard required was beyond their means. Unfortunately, permission to carry on with the scheme was refused by the ministry as it was too expensive, then estimated cost being between £1,300 and £1,500 for each house. Even with this amount spent on them, it was considered that the buildings would still be ranked as poor property owing to their flimsy structure. Reluctantly, the council agreed with this view, so the scheme was abandoned and the houses are in the process of being vacated.

The Council considered erecting pre-fabricated houses on certain disused sites but permission for this was not granted by the ministry on the grounds that the position was not suitable as the area was liable to suffer from subsidence.

Apart from the statutory interpretation of overcrowding, there is another type which is not so obvious but which is very real. This is either when two women share a kitchen or where the living-room open fire provides the only means of cooking. In the first place, friction invariably arises for never was there a truer saying than that there can be only one cook in a kitchen. In the second case, there is enormous danger of children being scalded by pulling saucepans over themselves or being burnt by clothes drying in front of the fire becoming ignited.

ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME.

(Burns and Scalds)

During 1959 in this area, there were 15 accidents necessitating hospital treatment and involving children under fifteen years of age. Of these, 6 were due to burns or scalds occurring in the home, 1 to swallowing pills, 2 to swallowing foreign bodies, 1 to falling downstairs, 1 to falling from a swing, 2 to road accidents and 2 to children falling out of doors. In analysing these accidents we find that 10 occurred in the home (66%) and of these 10, 6 were due to burns and scalds (60%). The accidents from burns and scalds which are largely avoidable all took place, with the exception of one in old fashioned houses where so much cooking is done over the open fire.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, 1959.

There were twelve Discretionary Grants and two Standard Grants accepted during the year under the 1949 Housing Act. In each case the work was completed.

The distribution was as follows :—

Blaengarw	.....	.....	3
Pontycymmer	.....	.....	2
Ogmore Vale	.....	.....	3
Nantymoel	.....	.....	3
Bettws	.....	.....	2
Abercerdin	.....	.....	1

In all 74 visits were made to discuss and advise with regard to the grants. Some applications could not be accepted.

PRIVATE OWNERSHIP.

The following is information with regard to the number of people who owned their houses in 1959 as compared with the number in 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958.

Parish	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Bettws	109	127	141	154	169
Llangeinor	1,448	1,546	1,598	1,744	1,808
Llandyfodwg	892	955	995	1,048	1,072
	<hr/> 2,449	<hr/> 2,628	<hr/> 2,734	<hr/> 2,946	<hr/> 3,049

103 houses were bought during 1959.

RENT ACT.

Twenty-one applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during 1959. All the applications were approved. In sixteen cases certificates were issued, in the remaining five cases, undertakings were accepted from the landlords that they would carry out repairs.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

1.—Inspections of dwelling houses during the year :—

(a)	1.	Total number of houses inspected for housing defects and number of inspections made	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	289
	2.	Council Houses visits	.....	.....	.....			46
(b)		Revisits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	336
(c)		Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.....	.....	.....	.....		Nil
(d)		Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	.....	.....				98

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice :—

(a)	Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	74
-----	--	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers :— Proceedings under Housing Acts :

(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	.....	.....				Nil
(b)	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of notices						
	1.	By Owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
	2.	By Local Authority in default of owners					Nil

4.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—

(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	98
(b)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied :	
1.	By Owners	91
2.	By Local Authority in default of owners	1

5.—Demolition Orders :—

(a)	Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	Nil
(b)	Number of houses demolished	Nil
(c)	Number of tenements in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(d)	Number of houses closed but not demolished	Nil

Three houses acquired by the National Coal Board and not then demolished, were demolished in 1959.

THE PROPOSED ABERGARW CARAVAN SITE.

Up to the present time, there have been, in this area a few caravans for temporary periods. These were unlicensed. Hitherto, we have held the view that caravan life was not a desirable mode of living especially if the family occupying the caravan had children. However, it is now proposed to license a site in the grounds of Abergarw house. The surroundings are really magnificent since, when occupied by the previous owner, the gardens were famous and were thrown open once a year for the benefit of the nursing association.

Whatever may be felt about this type of residence, there is no doubt but that it has come to stay because a certain section of the community likes a semi-nomadic kind of existence also it is a temporary answer to the housing problem which is ever with us. Since caravan life must be accepted as inevitable, we must be grateful that the proposed site is so blessed by nature. It is the duty of the local authority to insist on a high standard of maintenance. So far it appears from preliminary discussions with the owners of the site that by close co-operation between them and the local authority this may well be achieved. The proposed plan for sanitation is of a very high standard. The site is not on the main sewer and a cess-pool has to be built.

Finally, we must see to it that propaganda in health education should be fully maintained so that the residents of these sites may be made aware of the important part they themselves play in ensuring that the surroundings in which they live should be an example to other sites. Here is a wonderful opportunity for the public to see that a caravan site can be an asset and not a liability, as it so often is, to the neighbourhood.

MILK.

Fifty-one samples were taken during the year, all were passed as satisfactory.

The following is a list of dairy farms within the area where the occupiers hold licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk produced and sold wholesale from the premises on December 31st, 1959.

Parish of Bettws

- W. Davies, Gwernllwyn, Bettws (1958).
- T. T. Richards, Llety Brongu (1958).
- G. N. Garfield, Cynhordy Farm, Llangynwyd (1949).
- T. Jones, Celfydd Evan Farm, Bettws (1957).
- N. J. John, City Farm, Bettws (1957).
- G. R. Watkins, Ty Isaf, Bettws (1958).
- W. G. Thomas, Moelgulia, Bettws (1958).
- C. S. Phillips, Capel Bach, Llangynwyd (1959).
- G. Thomas, Penybryn Farm, Bettws (1959).
- W. T. Squire, Tylacoch, Bettws (1959).

Parish of Llandyfodwg

- B. F. Griffiths, Cae Rosser, Blackmill (1955).
- G. H. Williams, Gadlys, Blackmill (1952).
- D. G. Williams, Hendre Ifan Goch, Blackmill (1956).
- M. S. Roberts, Maesllan, Blackmill (1957).
- M. J. Jones, Nantymoel Farm, Nantymoel (1958).
- D. T. Williams, Brynchwith, Blackmill (1959).
- C. H. Morgan, Pantyrawel, Blackmill (1959).
- G. Tudor, Tywyrthyr Eglwys Farm, Blackmill (1959).
- T. Leyshon, Cefn Machen Uchaf Farm, Blackmill (1959).
- W. T. Williams, Graig Farm, Blackmill (1959).
- T. Edwards, Pwlllyfelin, Blackmill (1959).

Parish of Llangeinor

- M. Evans, Pantyscawen, Llangeinor (1949).
T. White, Cae Abbott, Llangeinor (1949).
A. Lewis, Blaen Clydwyn, Blackmill (1957).
G. M. Price, Abergarw Farm, Brynmenyn (1958).
W. Edmunds, Tynant, Llangeinor (1959).

These farms which hold "Tuberculin Tested" licences have to maintain an extremely high standard of hygiene and it is becoming essential that they should have a pure water supply and electric power for lighting and to drive their machinery.

67% of all the farms in the area now are connected to the South Wales Electricity Board's supply and at the end of 1959 a further 25% were in the process of being connected. 35% of the farms are connected with the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board supply of water, the remainder have their own supply.

The whole county of Glamorgan became a tuberculosis—eradication area on March 1st, 1959.

ICE CREAM

Twenty-eight samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination. Of these, twenty-seven were passed as satisfactory. Sampling was mainly confined to ice cream manufactured in the district. Such a large proportion of satisfactory results show that a very high standard of cleanliness is observed during the manufacturing processes.

SEWAGE.

Much attention is paid to sewage disposal, so that it may be claimed that the sewage from this area does not pollute rivers or beaches.

If more moisture could be extracted with a consequent reduction in bulk, it would be easier to handle and more attractive as a fertiliser.

FOOD HYGIENE.

Visits were paid during the year to retail food shops, cafés, colliery canteens and school kitchens. As far as structural matters and equipment are concerned, few serious infringements are found and personal cleanliness amongst food handlers is generally satisfactory. It is still necessary to give warnings from time to time of the unhygienic practice of smoking when uncovered food is being handled.

The number of mobile food traders appear to be on the increase. The mobile shops vary from converted motor coaches to specially constructed vehicles when standards of hygiene are as high as can be expected of any food premises. All mobile traders are expected to comply with the minimum requirements of the food hygiene regulations.

WATER.

Forty-five samples of water were taken during the year. Three were unsatisfactory.

Although, it was an extremely dry summer, no inconvenience was felt in this area and the supply was not cut at any time.

There are no stand pipes in the area.

The water from the Cwm-nant-y-ci source has a plumbo-solvent action which is treated by soda-ash.

The following are the results of samples taken.

REPORT ON CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER.

<i>Blackmill Hospital</i>					
Appearance in two foot tube	....	....	....	....	Yellow Clear
Colour (Burgess Scale) Units	....	....	....	....	62
Reaction, pH value	....	....	....	....	8.6
					<i>parts per million</i>
Total Hardness	....	....	....	....	8
(a) Temporary	....	....	....	....
(b) Permanent	....	....	....	....
Chlorides (expressed as Cl)	....	....	....	....
Nitrates (expressed as N)	....	....	....	....
Nitrites (expressed as N)	....	....	....	....
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	....	....	....	....
Albuminoid Nitrogen	....	....	....	....
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F from N/80	....	....	....	....
Permanganate	....	....	....	....
Metals	....	....	....	....	Lead 0.04
Residual Chlorine	....	....	....	....
Volume of sediment	....	....	....	....
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment	....	....	....	....

Remarks—

A very soft alkaline water containing a faint trace of lead. The figure for colour is high.

REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Description of Sample	Public Supply	Public Supply	Spring
	12 Waungoch	22 Heol Pandy,	2 Blandy
	Nantymoel	Llangeinor	Terrace, Pontycymmer
Probable number of coliform bacilli	.... 0 Per 100 ml.	.... 0 Per 100 ml.	.... 0 Per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal coli	.... 0 Per 100 ml.	.... 0 Per 100 ml.	.... 0 Per 100 ml.
Remarks	.... Satisfactory	.... Satisfactory	.... Satisfactory

REPORT ON CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER

<i>Dimbath</i>					
Number of Sample	....	....	....	....	1084
Date of Analysis	....	....	....	....	November 24th-26th
Appearance in two foot tube	....	....	....	....	Very Pale Green Clear
Colour (Burgess Scale) Units	....	....	....	....	12
Reaction, pH value	....	....	....	....	7.0
<i>parts per million</i>					
Total Hardness	....	....	....	....	47
(a) Temporary	....	....	....	....
(b) Permanent	....	....	....	....
Chlorides (expressed as Cl)	....	....	....	....	12
Nitrates (expressed as N)	....	....	....	....	Pr. Nil
Nitrites (expressed as N)	....	....	....	....	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	....	....	....	....	0.006
Albuminoid Nitrogen	....	....	....	....	0.010
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F from N/80	....	....	....	....
Permanganate	....	....	....	....	0.10
Metals	....	....	....	....	Nil
Residual Chlorine	....	....	....	....
Volume of Sediment	....	....	....	....	0.5
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment	....	....	....	....	Pr. Nil amorphous debris

Remarks—

A soft neutral water. The chemical and physical characters of the sample are satisfactory.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

The Council maintain two Swimming Baths at Ogmores Vale and at Pontycymmer. The one at Ogmores Vale is covered in and the water is obtained from a mountain stream; it is piped from an area well above any houses or any source of contamination, it is unfiltered. A series of hot water pipes inside the bath heat the water slightly. Bathing is confined to the summer months. The water is chlorinated with Chloros by hand. Several tests are made during the day to assess the amount of chlorine available by a Lovibond comparator. The water is changed when it is thought necessary.

The Pontycymmer bath is open air. Water is brought in from a mountain stream which flows by the side of the bath. The treatment is as described for the Ogmores bath.

REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

	<i>Ogmores Vale</i>		<i>Pontycymmer</i>	
	<i>Swimming Baths</i>		<i>Swimming Baths</i>	
Probable number of coliform bacilli	0 Per 100 ml.	....	0 Per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal coli	0 Per 100 ml.	....	0 Per 100 ml.
Remarks	Satisfactory	....	Satisfactory

RAINFALL RECORDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

Month	Merthyr- mawr 1	Bridgend 2	Schwyl 3	Llanharan 4	St. Athan 5	Pwllwy 6	Maesteg 7	Nanty- moel 8	Ponty- cymmer 9
January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December
Totals
Long Term Average
Percentage of Long Term Average	109%	92%	102%	102%	N/A	N/A	N/A	112%	99%

ANNUAL RAINFALL.

Year	Merthymawr	Bridgend	Schwyll	Llanharan	St. Athan	Pwllwy	Maesteg	Nantymoel	Pontycymmer
1925	46.94	46.75		51.45			66.38	79.42	82.46
1926	40.40	40.19		43.96			53.20		74.97
1927	47.44	48.36		53.41			72.09	95.53	91.39
1928	49.12	48.92		61.36			79.89	109.11	103.33
1929	42.78	44.69		49.84			75.53	91.77	90.04
1930	53.39	54.45		56.04			78.67	89.53	87.79
1931	46.38	44.67		49.89			74.67	85.10	83.87
1932	45.93	43.70	26.43	50.12	28.81		62.81	80.06	80.54
1933	33.31	31.67	35.94	33.07	28.79		48.81	58.81	57.51
1934	42.20	38.18	35.94	46.91	32.68		69.26	78.26	78.69
1935	45.65	45.03	40.65	50.08	32.68		73.26	81.30	80.67
1936	45.74	41.56	37.90	47.22	N/R		58.075	71.24	75.14
1937	39.53	33.25	39.65	42.71	31.18		67.83	67.83	67.51
1938	46.41	43.89	N/R	50.19	N/R		67.54	71.00	86.85
1939	50.31	50.69	40.12	58.16	36.44		76.33	91.84	86.14
1940	45.56	45.27	37.83	47.94	37.14		63.42	82.71	71.94
1941	41.51	38.86	34.76	41.34	35.05		51.47	72.59	63.80
1942	41.92	42.11	36.22	47.38	30.49		65.69	88.87	77.32
1943	43.07	42.62	39.74	48.20	34.96		70.99	90.85	75.44
1944	51.02	48.76	45.60	58.78	38.64		69.45	96.52	87.47
1945	45.13	46.19	41.16	50.01	38.16		66.53	89.54	85.27
1946	50.80	49.56	44.49	56.55	47.85		87.89	112.52	101.72
1947	41.49	37.65	34.25	42.44	34.36		55.56	74.19	65.08
1948	52.77	50.86	45.59	59.77	46.49		85.24	104.96	93.82
1949	41.48	43.28	38.82	48.72	38.98		65.99	79.21	74.52
1950	53.58	54.99	48.72	62.44	53.14	53.77	89.98	109.26	95.24
1951	49.98	48.45	46.69	56.92	37.43	48.18	81.88	98.02	87.39
1952	43.83	44.94	47.52	51.26	42.93	45.54	68.22	80.84	74.14
1953	41.05	41.93	39.59	48.81	30.50	43.94	68.64	80.69	76.11
1954	58.95	52.64	56.76	70.07	46.05	60.73	105.42	131.63	123.59
1955	40.66	35.40	37.65	45.59	32.82	41.10	64.03	80.14	74.97
1956	40.91	39.03	38.47	44.19	30.65	42.04	62.51	74.45	72.97
1957	42.60	40.61	41.20	49.98	33.47	44.61	79.35	100.51	88.14
1958	51.36	47.98	48.60	60.51	38.70	54.87	86.19	104.76	95.19
1959	46.83	41.82	41.90	50.96	35.65	47.44	71.85	94.77	81.24

THE SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE AREA.

The number of inspections and re-inspections made during the year are as follows :—

Housing Complaints received	.....	.....	.....	.....	132
Miscellaneous Complaints received	.....	.....	.....	.....	78
Visits to houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts					289
Revisits to houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts					336
Visits in connection with Improvement Grants	.....	.....			74
Miscellaneous Visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	223
Visits to Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	127
Inspection under the Shops Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Inspection of Food Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	205
Ice-cream Samples Taken	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
Milk Samples Taken	.....	.....	.....	.....	51
Water Samples Taken	.....	.....	.....	.....	45
Investigation and visits re infectious diseases	.....	.....			99
Disinfection and disinfestation visits	.....	.....	.....		68
Visits to Schools and Public Buildings	.....	.....	.....		13
Inspections of Factories	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Inspections of Swimming Baths	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Inspection under the Rent Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	64

FOOD CONDEMNED IN RETAIL SHOPS DURING 1959.

Milk	.....	.....	83 tins	Lard	.....	28 lbs.
Meat	.....	.....	169 tins	Raisins	.....	105 lbs.
Fish	.....	.....	53 tins	Cooked Meat	.....	23 lbs.
Vegetables	.....	.....	227 tins	Mixed Fruit	.....	18 lbs.
Fruit	.....	.....	386 tins	Pork Sausages		4 lbs.
Syrup	.....	.....	2 tins	Beef	.....	335 lbs.
Cooked Ham	.....	.....	9 tins	Pork	.....	11 lbs.
Meat Paste	.....	.....	6 jars	Chickens	.....	2
Bacon	.....	.....	13 lbs.	Turkey	.....	1—9 lb.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948.

(a) Factories where no mechanical power is employed :—

Watchmakers	2
Plumbers	3
Wireless Repairs	3
Carpenters	2
Furniture Upholstery	1

(b) Factories where mechanical power is employed :—

Motor Repairs	6
Carpenters	10
Boot Repairs	5
Electricity	2
Bakehouses	6
Fire Tile Factory	1
Leather Product Factory	1
Furniture Manufacturer	1
Bedding and Upholstery	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Part I of the Act.

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	3	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	44	13	—	—

2.—Cases in which **DEFECTS** were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
O t h e r offences against the Act n o t including offences relating to Outwork	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—

Part VII—Outworkers : There is one outworker in the area who does knitting for a Glasgow firm.

MEAT CONDEMNED IN

PONTYCYMMER AND OGMORE SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Cattle :

Livers	.....	.....	36	Heads and Tongues	.....	8
Part Livers	.....	.....	65	Spleen	.....	1
Lungs	.....	.....	34			

Pigs :

Hearts	14	Heads and Tongues	22
Livers	20	Lungs	60

Sheep :

Livers	87	Lungs	8
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Cattle excluding Cows & Bulls	Cows and Bulls	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
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50

**SAMPLES TAKEN IN THE OGMORE AND GARW URBAN
DISTRICT BY THE COUNTY SAMPLING OFFICERS DURING
THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959.**

Aspirins	3	Butter	2
Cake Sponge Mix, etc.	2	Cream	4
Desiccated Coconut	2	Dessert Powder	1
Fish (Canned)	1	Fish Paste	1
Flavouring	1	Fruit (Canned)	6
Glace Cherries	2	Gravy Browning	1
Ice-cream	11	Lard	2
Margarine	1	Meat Produce (canned)	7
Milk	67	Pepper	2
Sago	2	Rice	3
Salad Cream	2	Sausages	2
Sauces	3	Soda Water	1
Soft Drinks	4	Soup (Canned)	3
Sweets	4	Table Jelly	2
Tea	3	Vegetables (Canned)	8
Vinegar	8	Vitamin Tablets, etc.	1
Cockles	1	Hake Fillets	2
Mussels	1	Peanut Butter	1
Pearl Barley	1		
		Total	168

RODENT CONTROL.

Dwelling Houses	193
Business Premises.....	32
Local Authority Premises	56

Type of Infestation :

Rats—Major	Nil
Minor	258
Mice—Major	Nil
Minor	23

RODENT CONTROL.

SEWERS.

Period One :

- 1.—Total number of manholes in foul and connected systems—2,135.
- 2.—Date treatment began—9th March, 1959.
- 3.—Bait base and poison used—Arsenic and Sausage Rusk.
- 4.—Number of manholes baited—1,250.
- 5.—Number of manholes showing prebait take—260.
- 6.—Number of manholes showing complete prebait take—Nil.

Period Two :

- 1.—Total number of manholes in foul and connected systems—2,135.
- 2.—Date treatment began—12th October, 1959.
- 3.—Bait base and poison used—Sewarin.
- 4.—Number of manholes baited—822.
- 5.—Number of manholes showing prebait take—246.
- 6.—Number of manholes showing complete prebait take—Nil.

In March, 1959, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries decided to discontinue the scheme for rat clearance of farm premises.

This is an extra burden on the rodent operative as the food stores in the farm can maintain a heavy rat population. Since the Coal Board and the Co-operative Society now have their own operatives, working in harmony is essential to produce good results.

Attention has been paid to all tips, especially the one in Blaengarw.

Household refuse is often placed in the road in old buckets which are sometimes tipped over by the sheep providing fodder for the marauding rat. The Council have provided covered bins on their own sites and now are actively interested in the provision of bins for all houses, since the public themselves in many cases will not purchase their own.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE OGMORE AND GARW AREA DURING 1959.

	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>T</i>
1.—Tuberculosis (Respiratory).....	0	0	0
2.—Tuberculosis (other forms)	0	0	0
3.—Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0
4.—Diphtheria	0	0	0
5.—Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6.—Meningococcal Infection	0	0	0
7.—Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8.—Measles	0	0	0
9.—Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
10.—Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	3	6
11.—Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	7	1	8
12.—Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2	2
13.—Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
14.—Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	5	16
15.—Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0	0
16.—Diabetes	1	2	3
17.—Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	16	31
18.—Coronary disease, angina	40	12	52
19.—Hypertensions with heart disease	1	3	4
20.—Other heart diseases	21	29	50
21.—Other circulatory diseases	2	3	5
22.—Influenza	0	0	0
23.—Pneumonia	7	7	14
24.—Bronchitis	13	7	20
25.—Other diseases of the respiratory system	9	0	9
26.—Ulcer of stomach, duodenum	1	0	1
27.—Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	0	0	0
28.—Nephritis and nephrosis	0	2	2
29.—Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0	0
30.—Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	0	0	0
31.—Congenital Malformation	0	0	0
32.—Other defined and ill defined causes	10	10	20
33.—Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
34.—All other accidents	7	1	8
35.—Suicide	1	0	1
36.—Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
	<hr/> 151	<hr/> 106	<hr/> 257

1959

CAUSES OF DEATH

Numbers: 0

10

20

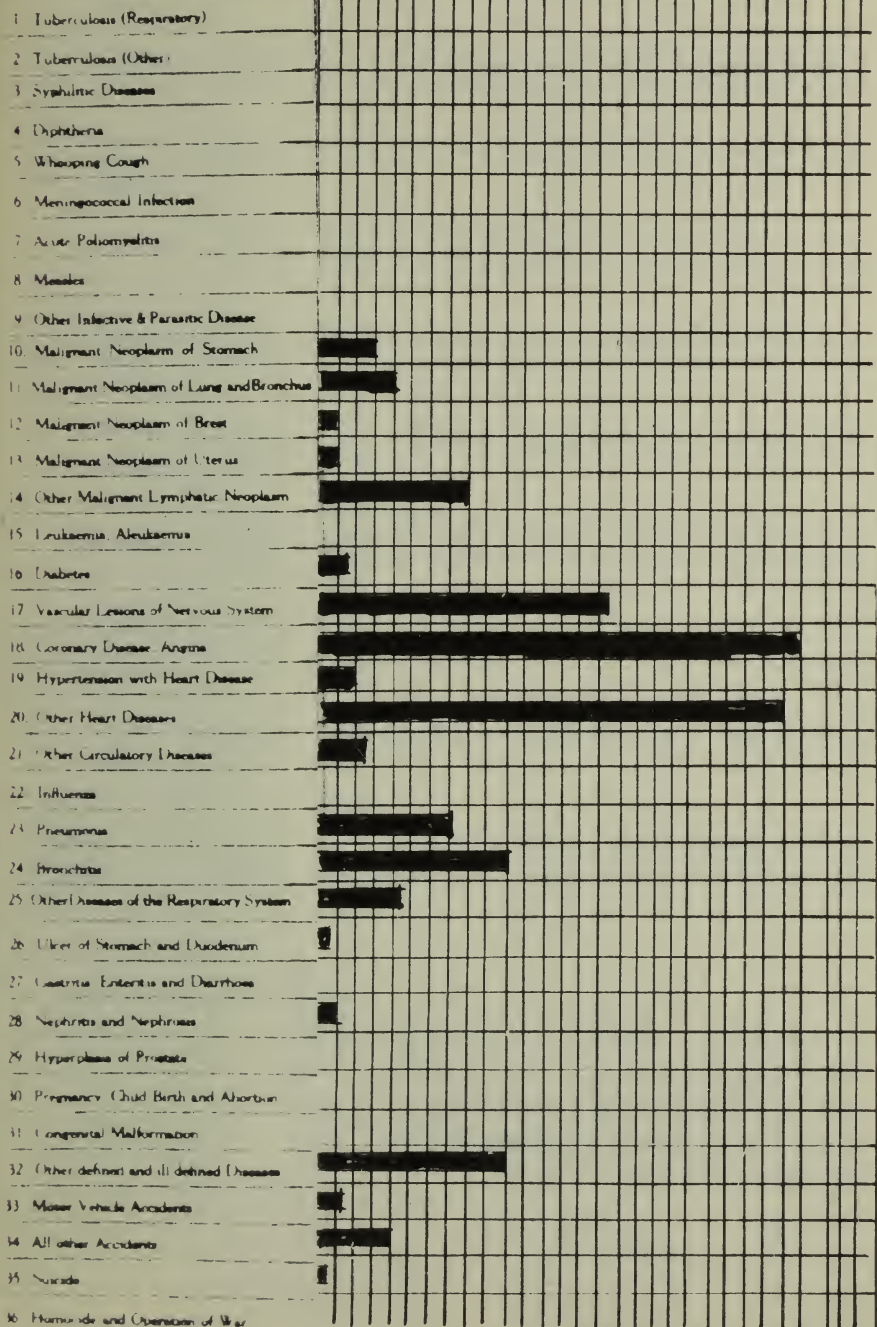
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CAUSES





GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1959

	Births			Deaths			Infant Mortality			Neo Natal Mortality		
	Estimated Population 1959	Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Population Crude	Adjusted	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population Crude	Adjusted	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
England and Wales												
Administrative County	746,300	12,122	16.24	16.08	8,915	11.95	13.86	341	28.13	255	21.04	
Urban Districts	535,900	8,720	16.27	15.94	6,438	12.01	13.93	251	28.78	188	21.56	
Rural Districts	210,400	3,402	16.17	16.49	2,477	11.77	13.54	90	26.46	67	19.69	
Health Division Constituent Districts												
Aberdare and Aberdare Urban	39,610	554	13.99	14.41	575	14.52	14.96	15	27.08	11	19.86	
Mountain Ash Mountain Ash Urban	30,540	520	17.03	16.86	357	11.69	14.03	14	26.92	14	26.92	
Caerphilly and Caerphilly Urban	37,810	637	16.85	16.01	404	10.69	13.90	24	37.68	17	26.69	
Gelligaer	36,200	648	17.90	18.44	390	10.77	13.57	18	27.78	16	24.69	
Mid-Glam.												
Bridgend Urban	14,780	277	18.74	17.80	166	11.23	12.13	4	14.44	3	10.83	
Maesteg Urban	22,610	349	15.44	15.44	286	12.65	15.94	13	37.25	9	25.79	
Ogmore & Garw Urban	22,010	361	16.40	16.40	257	11.68	14.13	8	22.16	5	13.85	
Porthcawl Urban	10,550	148	14.03	13.89	134	12.70	11.81	5	33.78	5	33.78	
Penybont Rural	37,610	714	18.98	19.74	513	13.64	13.50	16	22.41	11	15.41	
Neath and District												
Neath M.B.	31,110	474	15.24	14.17	381	12.25	13.84	13	27.43	8	16.88	
Neath Rural	41,480	606	14.61	14.32	489	11.79	14.86	15	24.75	9	14.85	
Pontypridd & Llantrisant Rural	26,110	461	17.66	16.95	277	10.61	13.58	17	36.88	13	28.20	
Llantrisant	37,460	590	15.75	15.12	528	14.10	14.38	16	27.12	12	20.34	
Port Talbot & Glyncorrwg Urban	10,030	189	18.84	18.46	114	11.37	16.26	10	52.91	7	37.04	
Glyncorrwg	48,680	934	19.19	18.23	438	10.07	13.29	24	25.70	19	20.34	
South East Glamorgan												
Barry M.B.	42,310	802	18.96	18.20	438	10.35	11.39	17	21.20	13	16.21	
Cardiff Rural	42,470	705	16.60	16.93	507	11.94	11.70	16	22.70	13	18.44	
Cowbridge M.B.	990	9	9.09	9.45	11	11.11	11.55	1	111.11	1	111.11	
Cowbridge Rural	19,150	339	17.70	19.65	144	7.52	13.08	10	29.50	8	23.60	
Penarth Urban	19,480	290	14.89	14.74	255	13.09	12.04	8	27.59	5	17.24	
West Glam.												
Gower Rural	12,000	161	13.42	14.09	151	12.58	11.70	4	24.84	3	18.63	
Pontardawe Rural	31,580	416	13.17	13.30	396	12.54	13.67	12	28.85	10	24.04	
Llchwyr Rural	25,730	364	14.15	14.43	314	12.20	14.27	8	21.98	5	13.74	
Rhondda	106,900	1,574	14.85	14.55	1,338	12.62	14.64	53	33.67	38	24.14	





WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.
RECEIVED

10 AUG 1960

A.